

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition

(Form I-730)

OMB No. 1615-0037

A. Justification:

1. Sections 207(c)(2) and 208(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (Act) provide benefits for the spouse and/or children of aliens who were granted refugee or asylum status. This form will be used by an asylee or refugee to file on behalf of his/her spouse and/or children provided that the relationship to the refugee/asylee existed prior to their admission to the United States.
2. The data collected on this form is used by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to determine eligibility for the requested immigration benefit. The form serves the purpose of standardizing requests for the benefit, and ensuring that the basic information required to assess eligibility is provided by the applicants.
3. The use of this form provides the most efficient means for collecting and processing the required data. Currently, the USCIS does not have the automated capability in place to accept electronic submission of applications.
4. A review of the Forms Inventory Report revealed no duplication of effort, and there is no other similar information currently available that can be used for this purpose.

5. This collection does not have an impact on small businesses or other small entities.
6. If the information is not collected and presented to USCIS, there is no mechanism for qualifying family members to be reunited with their family who have resettled in the United States. The collection of this information is necessary to obtain this immigration benefit.
7. There are no special circumstances associated with this information collection.
8. Public comments obviously cannot be addressed in the initial submission. Any public comments will be reconciled and addressed in the justification package with the USCIS' second submission.
9. USCIS does not provide payments or gifts to respondents in exchange for a benefit sought.
10. There is no assurance of confidentiality.
11. There are no questions of a sensitive nature.
12. Annual Reporting Burden:
 - a. Number of Respondents 86,400
 - b. Number of Responses per Respondent 1
 - c. Total Annual Response 86,400
 - d. Hours per Response .583
 - e. Total Annual Reporting Burden 50,371

The projected hours per response for this collection of information were derived by first breaking the process into three basic components:

Learning about the law and the form	10 minutes
Completion of the form	10 minutes
Assembling and Filing the form	15 minutes
<i>Total Hours per Response</i>	<i>35 minutes</i>

For the first two components, we used tests to determine completion times. People who were not conversant with immigration processes were used to determine average completion time. The third component of the process, “Assembling and Filing the Form,” was broken down into subtasks. For example, the form can be mailed to a USCIS office or filed in person. Therefore, the time necessary to actually file the form can vary widely depending on the circumstances of the applicant.

Annual Reporting Burden

Total annual reporting burden hours is 50,371. This figure was derived by multiplying the number of respondents (86,400) x frequency of response (1) x hours per response .583 (35 minutes).

13. There are no capital or start-up costs associated with this information collection. Any cost burdens to respondents as a result of this collection are identified in item 14. There are no fee charges associated with this collection of information.

14. **Annualized Cost Analysis:**

Printing Cost	\$ 38,880
Collecting and Processing	\$ 3,417,120
Total Cost to Program	\$ 3,456,000
Fee Charge	\$ 0
Total Cost to Government	\$ 3,456,000

Government Cost

The cost of the program to the Government is \$3,456,000. This figure is calculated by using the estimated number of respondents (86,400) multiplied by 1 hour (time required to collect and process information) x \$40 (suggested average hourly rate for clerical, officer, and managerial time with benefits). In addition, the cost includes estimated overhead cost for printing, stocking, distributing and processing of this form.

Public Cost

The estimated annual public cost is \$503,710. This is based on the number of respondents (86,400) x 35 minutes (.583) per response x \$10 (average hourly rate).

15. There has been no increase or decrease in the estimated annual burden hours previously reported for this information collection
16. USCIS does not intend to employ the use of statistics or the publication thereof for this collection of information.
17. USCIS will display the expiration date on this information collection .

18. USCIS does not request an exception to the certification of this information collection.

See attached Item 19 of Form OMB 83-I.

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods.

Not applicable.

C. Certification and Signature.

PAPERWORK CERTIFICATION

In submitting this request for OMB approval, I certify that the requirements of the Privacy Act and OMB directives have been complied with including paperwork regulations, statistical standards or directives, and any other information policy directives promulgated under 5 CFR 1320.

Richard A. Sloan

Date

Director

Regulatory Management Division